

JULY 13TH, 5:29 P.M. THE END OF EVERYTHING.



I'M DR. VAL VENTURA,
THE AVENGER KNOWN AS FLATMAN.
DON'T BOTHER REMEMBERING IT...

HIGHLAND MEMORIAL PARK.
A COUPLE WEEKS AGO.



...NOBODY ELSE WILL.
BECAUSE I'M NOT A
REAL AVENGER.

I'M A GREAT LAKES AVENGER.

AND IN THE VAST
SCHEME OF THINGS,
NO ONE CARES IF
WE LIVE OR DIE.

AND SO WE
BID FAREWELL TO
PINAH SOAR. WE
MOST CERTAINLY WILL
NEVER SEE HER
LIKE AGAIN.

AMEN.

"DISMEMBERSHIP
DRIVE"

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I-I-I'll
KILL
YOU!!!

ALL RIGHT?!
YOU *TOOK* HER
FROM ME!
LIKE YOU'VE
TAKEN *EVERYONE*
FROM ME!

CRAIG, I'M
AN ABSTRACT BEING.
AN EMBODIMENT OF
DEATH ITSELF.

WAKK

TO KILL ME
WOULD CREATE ME.
AND WHAT PURPOSE
WOULD *THAT* SERVE?
THOUGH I DO
APPRECIATE...

...HOW
CONFRONTING ME
IN THE HERE AND
NOW MUST BE VERY
THERAPEUTIC.

SO HERE,
LET ME HELP YOU
WORK THROUGH THIS,
OKAY?

TUNK

AFTER
ALL...

"...WHAT ARE
FRIENDS FOR?"

WHAT ON
EARTH IS HE
DOING?

HE'S...
HE'S FLIPPING
AROUND.

OH, HE'S
FLIPPED ALL RIGHT.
SO WHAT DO WE
DO, DOC?

DINAH'S
GONE. AND WITHOUT
HER TO CALM HIM DOWN,
MR. I'S GONE FULL-TIME
GONZO.

WE DO
WHAT WE ALWAYS
DO. WE SOLDIER ON.
AND WE KEEP MOVING
FORWARD!

ACTUALLY? WE USUALLY DON'T DO MUCH OF ANYTHING.
BUT THAT *SOUNDED* LIKE THE RIGHT THING TO SAY.



YES...YES...
MAELSTROM, THE UNLIKELY,
THE REJECT.

SPAWN OF
THE STRANGE
AND THE LOWLY,
OF INHUMAN AND
DEVIAN.

HOW LITTLE THE
UNIVERSE EXPECTED
OF ME. AND HOW FITTING
THAT I SHALL BE THE
ONE TO FEAST UPON
ITS CARCASS!



BUT THERE
IS MUCH WORK TO
BE DONE HERE, TASKS
THAT REQUIRE MY FULL
ATTENTION...

AND STILL
MUST I ACQUIRE THE
MISSING PIECE TO MY
MASTERWORK.



VERY WELL,
NEEDS DICTATE THAT
I RESORT TO PAWNS
AND LACKEYS?

SO BE IT.

'ALLO.
OUI, ZIS IS BATROC
ZEE LEAPAIR!

PAWNE LACKEY?
C'EST MOI! MINION,
FLINKY, PEON--WHATEVER
YOU REQUIRE.

BUT BE WARNED:
MON FRERE, MY
DIGNITY, LIKE MY
SERVICES, COMES
AT A PRICE.



NEW YORK CITY!
IT'S LIKE A SUPER
HERO NEXUS...

DOESN'T MATTER IF SOMEONE'S
FROM AN UNDERWATER KINGDOM,
A RUSSIAN SUPER-SPY PROGRAM,
OR A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY...

...THEY ALL END UP IN NEW YORK--
OR POP BY FOR A VISIT--AND ALL
FOR THE FLIMSIEST OF REASONS...

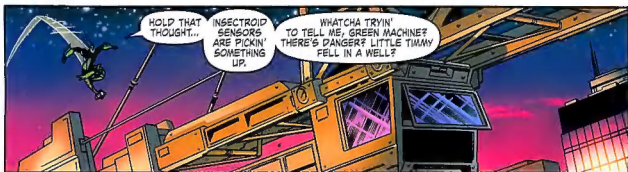
AND IF THAT'S NOT
ENOUGH, THEY'VE GOT
NEW GUYS POPPING
UP ALL THE TIME!

YEEHAA!

WHAT A DAY!
NOT ONLY DID ROXON
GIVE ME A RAISE, BUT THEY
PUT ME ON CINDY SHELTON'S
RESEARCH TEAM!

WHO KNOWS?
MAYBE IF I PLAY
MY CARDS RIGHT, I
CAN WIN HER OVER AS
POUR TAGGER!...

...OR AT LEAST
FIGURE OUT WHY
SHE'S GOT SUCH
A MAD-ON FOR THE
EVER-GREGARIOUS
GRASSHOPPER!





DOORMAN
WASN'T FARING
ANY BETTER.

TALK! YOU HAVE
FIVE SECONDS TO TELL
ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING
SKULKING AROUND
UP HERE.

AND WHY
YOU'RE DRESSED
UP AS MY OLD
KENESIS...

...THE
MIDNIGHT
MAN?!

NO, NO,
NO! NOT
THE MIDNIGHT
MAN!

I'M
DOORMAN!
FROM THE
GLA!

AND I'M UP
ON THE ROOFTOPS
LOOKING FOR
SUPER HEROES--
LIKE YOU...

...TO SEE IF
THEY'D LIKE TO JOIN
OUR TEAM. SO, YOU
INTERESTED?



TEAMS
ARE TOO
PUBLIC. AND
TO OPERATE IN
MY WORLD OF
SHADOWS...



...THE MOON
KNIGHT MUST REMAIN
AN URBAN MYTH.

MONKEY JOE SAYS:

A vigilante
operating as
an urban myth
only works for his
first year of
continuity

Tops

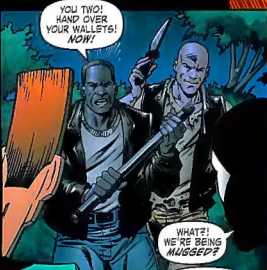




OKAY...I'LL
ADMIT THAT
COULD'VE GONE
BETTER...

WHO YOU
KIDDING, FLATSO?
HAVEN'T FACED THAT MUCH
REJECTION SINCE THE
8TH GRADE!

'COULD'VE
GONE BETTER'?
RIGHT. LIKE TONIGHT
COULD'VE GONE ANY
WORSE...



YOU TWO!
HAND OVER
YOUR WALLET!
NOW!

WHAT?!
WE'RE BEING
MUGGED?

NOT ON
OUR WATCH!
GET 'EM, MONKEY
JOE!



WHAT
THE--? THIS IS
FRICKIN'...



...RIMPH--
NUTS!

NOT SO
ROUGH N' TOUGH NOW,
ARE YOU?

Squeel!

OWWWW!
MY SCALP!
GEDDIT OFF
A' ME!

AND THAT'S HOW WE MET THE
BRIGHT-EYED AND BUSHY-TAILED...

SQUIRREL GIRL! YOU'VE
DONE IT AGAIN!
ONCE MORE,
CENTRAL PARK IS SAFE,
THANKS TO YOU!

OH PSHAW, LARRY, YOU
MOUNTED POLICEMEN AND
YOUR HORSES...

...YOU'RE THE
REAL HEROES.

ASK HER,
NO, YOU
DO IT.

FINE, BUT
YOU GET THE
NEXT ONE.

YOU FELLAS
OKAY? NEED SOMEONE
TO WALK YOU HOME
OR SOMETHIN'?

UH...
THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
ACTUALLY...

WE'RE PART
OF A SUPER HERO TEAM,
THE GREAT LAKES AVENGERS.
AND WE WERE WONDERING
IF YOU'D LIKE TO...
JOIN?

CAN
MONKEY JOE
JOIN TOO?

UH... SURE.

OKAY-POKEY,
WHY NOT?

REALLY?!!
YOU MEAN IT?

YEAH,
SOUNDS LIKE
IT COULD BE A
LOT OF...

**KLANG
KLANG
KLANG**
ALARMS!

QUICK,
TEAM! TO ACTION!
**AVENGERS
ASSEMBLE!**

WOWEE!
THAT DIDN'T TAKE
LONG AT ALL!



QUI? ZEN
PERHAPS ZIG
BUG, HE NEEDS TO
BE SQUASHED,
NO?

YOU TRIPPED
THAT ALARM ON
PURPOSE!

THAT'S
WE ALL OVER.
THE BUG IN YOUR
LITTLE HIGH-TECH
HEIST!

GET REAL,
FRENCHIE!

NBODY
GETS A LEG UP ON
GRASSHOPPER!

INCREDIBLE!
HOW CAN ZIG SEE?
I HAVE BEEN
OUTLEAPED!



AND
OUTNUMBERED,
BATROO!

TAKING ON
BATROO'S BRIGADE
ALL BY YOURSELF?
PRETTY BRAVE, SON.
MIND IF WE LEND
A HAND?

HUNH?

LAY
CARAMBA!
MORE OF
THEM?

WASHH

**MONKEY
JOE SAYS:**

Five
point eight
seconds. A new
record...



...for
shortest
membership
on ANY
super-team.



HOLY ****!
HE'S DEAD!

AU REVOIR,
MES AMIS!

ZAT WAS
QUITE ZEE AMUSING
DIVERSION, NO?
MERCI!

WE COULD
NOT HAVE PULLED
ZIS HEIST OFF
WITHOUT YOU!



WHAT?
THE BAD
GUYS!

THEY'RE
GETTING
AWAY!

YEAH?
AND WHO WE ARE
AND WHAT WE DO
IS SUCK.

I'D ALWAYS THOUGHT
THAT EFFORT COUNTED
FOR SOMETHING.

JULY 13TH, 5:29 P.M. THE END OF EVERYTHING.

HOLD ON!

THAT THE TRUE
MEASURE OF A
SUPER HERO WASN'T
HIS POWERS...

...BUT HOW HARD
HE FOUGHT THE
GOOD FIGHT.

I'VE GOT
YOU, DOC!

ASHLEY, NO!
I'M PULLING YOU IN
WITH ME!

IT'S FUNNY, THAT
HERE, AT THE END...

...MAYBE THE MOST HEROIC
THING I CAN DO...

...IS LET GO.

**MONKEY
JOE SAYS:**

Next time,
yet **ANOTHER**
Great Lakes Avenger
kicks the bucket.

Hmm...who
could it be?
What gruesome
fate awaits
them?

Or, more
importantly,
do you even
care?

Better
not be
Squirrel Girl.
That's all I'm
sayin'.